

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(20)

TO: Honorable Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: December 12, 2023

FROM: Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution urging the Florida Legislature to appropriate funding for the Biscayne Bay Watershed Management Plan; waiving the requirements of Resolution No. R-764-13, as necessary, limiting the number of state legislative priorities; and including this item as a priority in the 2024 State Legislative Package

Resolution No. R-1167-23

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Danielle Cohen Higgins.



Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

GBK/uw



MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

TO: Honorable Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: December 12, 2023

FROM: 
Gen Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 11(A)(20)

Please note any items checked.

- ☐ "3-Day Rule" for committees applicable if raised
- ☐ 6 weeks required between first reading and public hearing
- ☐ 4 weeks notification to municipal officials required prior to public hearing
- ☐ Decreases revenues or increases expenditures without balancing budget
- ☐ Budget required
- ☐ Statement of fiscal impact required
- ☐ Statement of social equity required
- ☐ Ordinance creating a new board requires detailed County Mayor's report for public hearing
- ☒ No committee review
- ☐ Applicable legislation requires more than a majority vote (i.e., 2/3's present ____, 2/3 membership ____, 3/5's ____, unanimous ____, CDMP 7 vote requirement per 2-116.1(3)(h) or (4)(c) ____, CDMP 2/3 vote requirement per 2-116.1(3)(h) or (4)(c) ____, or CDMP 9 vote requirement per 2-116.1(4)(c)(2) ____ to approve
- ☐ Current information regarding funding source, index code and available balance, and available capacity (if debt is contemplated) required

Approved _____ Mayor
Veto _____
Override _____

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(20)
12-12-23

RESOLUTION NO. _____ R-1167-23

RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO APPROPRIATE FUNDING FOR THE BISCAYNE BAY WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN; WAIVING THE REQUIREMENTS OF RESOLUTION NO. R-764-13, AS NECESSARY, LIMITING THE NUMBER OF STATE LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES; AND INCLUDING THIS ITEM AS A PRIORITY IN THE 2024 STATE LEGISLATIVE PACKAGE

WHEREAS, Biscayne Bay is a fundamental component of the environment, economy, and culture of Miami-Dade County and the State of Florida; and

WHEREAS, on July 20, 2021, this Board adopted Ordinance No. 21-72, which created the Miami-Dade County Biscayne Bay Watershed Management Advisory Board; and

WHEREAS, one of the responsibilities of the Biscayne Bay Watershed Management Advisory Board is to, “[d]evelop recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners and the County Mayor as to a detailed Watershed Restoration Plan, with the goals of achieving water quality and seagrass restoration and Biscayne Bay health, recovery, and resilience”; and

WHEREAS, the Watershed Restoration Plan, also referred to as the Biscayne Bay Watershed Management Plan, would strategically address priority goals of the Reasonable Assurance Plan (which the County is currently developing under applicable state law) and other water quality and habitat restoration goals using sound science and adaptive management; and

WHEREAS, the Biscayne Bay Watershed Management Plan would consider the impact of activities in Biscayne Bay’s watershed, including new development, stormwater runoff, aging infrastructure, septic systems, flood risk to sea level rise and storm surge, and land use; and

WHEREAS, funding is needed to help develop the Biscayne Bay Watershed Management Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Legislature has an extensive record of legislating in support of Biscayne Bay; and

WHEREAS, this Board therefore wishes to urge the Florida Legislature to provide funding for the Biscayne Bay Watershed Management Plan, and further wishes to identify this issue as a legislative priority for the 2024 legislative session,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, that this Board:

Section 1. Urges the Florida Legislature to appropriate funding for the Biscayne Bay Watershed Management Plan.

Section 2. Waives the requirements of Resolution No. R-764-13, as necessary, limiting the number of Miami-Dade County state legislative priorities.

Section 3. Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the Governor, the Senate President, the House Speaker, and the Chair and Members of the Miami-Dade County State Legislative Delegation.

Section 4. Directs the County's state lobbyists to advocate for the action described in section 1 above, and authorizes and directs the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to amend the 2024 State Legislative Package to include this item as a priority.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Danielle Cohen Higgins. It was offered by Commissioner **Anthony Rodriguez** , who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner **Raquel A. Regalado** and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Oliver G. Gilbert, III, Chairman	aye		
Anthony Rodríguez, Vice Chairman	aye		
Marleine Bastien	absent	Juan Carlos Bermudez	aye
Kevin Marino Cabrera	aye	Sen. René García	aye
Roberto J. Gonzalez	aye	Keon Hardemon	absent
Danielle Cohen Higgins	aye	Eileen Higgins	aye
Kionne L. McGhee	aye	Raquel A. Regalado	aye
Micky Steinberg	aye		

The Chairperson thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted this 12th day of December, 2023. This resolution shall become effective upon the earlier of (1) 10 days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the County Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board, or (2) approval by the County Mayor of this resolution and the filing of this approval with the Clerk of the Board.



MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA
BY ITS BOARD OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

JUAN FERNANDEZ-BARQUIN, CLERK

By: Basia Pruna
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency.

CJW

Christopher J. Wahl